



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

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FACT SHEET

Civil Society Strengthening

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) programs reflect the belief that civic education and citizen participation go hand in hand. By working with community educators, the U.S. Government, through USAID's programs, has assisted community groups to organize, document and prioritize needs, address their concerns to appropriate municipal officials, and exercise due diligence and persistence in obtaining responses from those officials and, when appropriate, longer-term policy change.

USAID programs support U.S. Government priorities to 1) increase citizen participation in political/social decision-making; 2) build greater understanding of individuals' rights through support for non-governmental organizations; and 3) assist NGOs to develop the capacity to combat corruption. Overall, the U.S. Government has provided over \$1 billion to support the development of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Civic Advocacy Partnership Program (CAPP) Budget:
(August 2005 – August 2008)
(CCI)

\$3.8 million

Implementer: Centers for Civic Initiative

This program aims to help local NGOs and civic organizations strengthen their advocacy, coalition building, and watch-dog capacities, and to address citizen needs through education, advocacy, and the provision of services. The project will provide grants to local NGOs to advocate for policy changes and to monitor the commitment of elected leaders to implement promised policies and legislation. CAPP will also provide direct assistance to support concrete community-based civic advocacy activities as well as give assistance to the Teledom Association and network of Teledoms in BiH. In 2006, CAPP supported a movement of 400 local NGOs and interest groups which voiced citizens' concerns to political leaders through the creation of a citizens' election platform signed by 25% of registered voters. CAPP now focuses on issues included in the platform such as: unemployment, poverty reduction, pensions, oversight of public funds and services, European integration, public funding of NGOs and education on the role of NGOs in society.



Citizens sign election platform

Sustainable Development of the Non-Profit Sector in BiH Budget:
(May 2004 – August 2008)

Budget: \$420,000

Implementer: Center for Civil Society Promotion (CCSP)

This activity aims to help modernize civil society in BiH by encouraging local NGOs to assume ownership of the agenda for civil society development. Specifically, it seeks to consensually craft strategies and programs to develop and regulate the sector, to introduce institutional mechanisms to provide for public-private partnerships, and serves as an intermediary support organization. The project works in partnership with 16 domestic NGOs and NGO networks, representing more than 300 domestic organizations from throughout BiH.

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